

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the Application. With reference to the listing it is noted that, herewith, claims 1-12 and 20 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for effectively using network resources, comprising:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the cellular distribution of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the cellular distribution of the reception group comprises at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with one or more first cells and severing relationship with one or more second cells.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for effectively using network resources, comprising:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the composition of the reception group, deciding whether a

subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the composition of the reception group does not result in there being no terminals in the reception group.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for effectively using network resources, comprising:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

selecting from among available cellular distributions for said reception group,

wherein the available cellular distributions comprise one or more different possibilities for at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with a plurality of first cells and severing relationship with a plurality of second cells; and

deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating;

wherein said ~~steps of~~ selecting and deciding are performed upon a change in the physical location of a member of said group.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for effectively using network resources, comprising:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;
selecting from among available cellular distributions for said reception group,
wherein the available cellular distributions comprise one or more different possibilities for at
least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with a plurality of first cells
and severing relationship with a plurality of second cells; and

deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via
unicast or via multicast, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information
provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said
provision comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which a member of said one or more
members is capable of communicating;

wherein said ~~steps of~~ selecting and deciding are performed upon a change in the
composition of the reception group.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for effectively using network resources, comprising:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;
and

upon a change in the cellular distribution of the reception group, deciding whether
a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast
link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from
one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship~~
~~information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality
of cells with which ~~that a~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the cellular distribution of the reception group comprises at

least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with one or more first cells and severing relationship with one or more second cells, and

wherein said ~~step of~~ deciding further comprises determining the ideality of each option.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for effectively using network resources, comprising:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the composition of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the composition of the reception group does not result in there being no terminals in the reception group,

wherein said ~~step of~~ deciding further comprises determining the ideality of each option.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for effectively using network resources, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform ~~the steps of~~:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the cellular distribution of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that a member~~ of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the cellular distribution of the reception group comprises at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with one or more first cells and severing relationship with one or more second cells.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for effectively using network resources, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform ~~the steps of~~:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the composition of the reception group, deciding whether a

subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the composition of the reception group does not result in there being no terminals in the reception group.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for effectively using network resources, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform ~~the steps of~~:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

selecting from among available cellular distributions for said reception group,

wherein the available cellular distributions comprise one or more different possibilities for at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with a plurality of first cells and severing relationship with a plurality of second cells; and

deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which a member of said one or

more members is capable of communicating;

wherein said ~~steps of~~ selecting and deciding are performed upon a change in the physical location of a member of said group.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for effectively using network resources, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform ~~the steps of~~:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

selecting from among available cellular distributions for said reception group,

wherein the available cellular distributions comprise one or more different possibilities for at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with a plurality of first cells and severing relationship with a plurality of second cells; and

deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating;

wherein said ~~steps of~~ selecting and deciding are performed upon a change in the composition of the reception group.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for effectively using network resources, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform ~~the steps of~~:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the cellular distribution of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the cellular distribution of the reception group comprises at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with one or more first cells and severing relationship with one or more second cells, and

wherein said ~~step of~~ deciding further comprises determining the ideality of each option.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for effectively using network resources, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in

accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform ~~the steps of~~:

forwarding to a reception group a service corresponding to said reception group;

and

upon a change in the composition of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information provisions received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein each said provision ~~the relationship information received from each of said one or more members~~ comprises indication of a plurality of cells with which ~~that~~ a member of said one or more members is capable of communicating,

wherein the change in the composition of the reception group does not result in there being no terminals in the reception group,

wherein said ~~step of~~ deciding further comprises determining the ideality of each option.

13. (Original) A method as in any of claims 1-6, wherein said deciding takes into account the bandwidth used and the spectral spectrum efficiency factor of each access system.

14. (Original) A system as in any of claims 7-12, wherein said deciding takes into account the bandwidth used and the spectrum efficiency factor of each access system.

15. (Original) A method as in any of claims 1-6, wherein said deciding takes into account the

bandwidth used and the per-unit-cost of that bandwidth.

16. (Original) A system as in any of claims 7-12, wherein said deciding takes into account the bandwidth used and the per-unit-cost of that bandwidth.

17. (Original) A method as in any of claims 1-6, wherein said deciding takes into account the percentage of total available link bandwidth used and the percentage of terminals using the link that would be served by using the bandwidth.

18. (Original) A system as in any of claims 7-12, wherein said deciding takes into account the percentage of total available link bandwidth used and the percentage of terminals using the link that would be served by using the bandwidth.

19. (Original) A method as in any of claims 1-6, further comprising receiving a join indication from a terminal.

20. (Currently Amended) A system as in any of claims 7-12, wherein said processor additionally performs ~~the step of~~ receiving a join indication from a terminal.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of the terminal's network interfaces.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of

the networks currently available to the terminal.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of a desired start time for reception of transmissions.

24. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of a desired stop time for ceasing reception of transmissions.

25. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of the terminal's network interfaces.

26. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of the networks currently available to the terminal.

27. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of a desired start time for reception of transmissions.

28. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said join indication comprises a specification of a desired stop time for ceasing reception of transmissions.